



**ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES  
2007 TRIBAL CONSULTATION ANNUAL REPORT**

**Arizona Department of Health Services  
Susan Gerard, Director**

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**This Report Is Provided As Required by Executive  
Order 2006-14 - Consultation and Cooperation with  
Arizona Tribes**

**October 12, 2007**

**Tribal Consultation Policy:**

ADHS issued its Tribal Consultation Policy in September, 2006. Copies were distributed electronically to all Tribal Health Directors. In addition, copies were e-mailed to Urban Indian Health Directors, Indian Health Service (IHS) Area Directors, and the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA) Executive Director. This 5 page government-to-government policy is listed on the ADHS Native American web site at <http://azdhs.gov/phs/tribal/pdf/tribalconsultationpolicy.doc>. The ADHS Native American Liaison will coordinate efforts regarding the policy.

Planning has been initiated in partnership with AHCCCS and ADES for the sponsorship of a state wide Tri-Agency Tribal Consultation Session scheduled for 11/30/07. The purpose of this consultation session is for each agency to report on their tribal activities and to receive feedback from tribal elected officials and representatives. The event will be held in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

**Director's Tribal Site Visits**

In the spirit of tribal consultation, in October and November of 2006, Director Susan Gerard and the Deputy Director for Behavioral Health, conducted historical site visits in southern and northern Arizona. In Southern Arizona the Director visited the Tohono O'odham Nation, the Pascua Yaqui Tribe, the Tucson Indian Health Service Area Office, and the Tucson Indian Center. In Northern Arizona she visited the Navajo Nation and Navajo Indian Health Service Area Office. These site visit meetings were held to discuss behavioral health and public health needs among tribal communities.

**Native American Liaison**

The ADHS Native American Liaison worked throughout the year coordinating ADHS programs with Arizona's Indian Nations and tribes, IHS and ITCA. The ADHS Native American Liaison is ADHS's primary contact staff for all matters relating to ADHS's work with Indian Nations and tribes, IHS, and ITCA. His tribal contacts are the Health Directors for each Nation and tribe. Representing ADHS he serves as a member of the Advisory Council on Indian Health Care and as an ex-officio member of the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs. His liaison work has greatly improved communication and coordination between ADHS and tribal, IHS, and ITCA health program officials.

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### **Behavioral Health Services**

The ADHS Division of Behavioral Health Services provided on-going operating funding to four tribes, two for Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authorities (Gila River Indian Community and the Pascua Yaqui Tribe), one for case management (Navajo Nation), and one for administering state-only funds (Colorado River Indian Tribes). In February, 2007, the Division hired Lydia Hubbard-Pourier as the Tribal Regional Behavioral Health Authority (TRBHA) Contract Administrator. Her primary duties are to coordinate all Division work with contracted tribes and to be the primary lead for non-contracted tribes interested in a TRBHA contract.

In July, 2006, the Division added a fifth tribe contracting behavioral health services from ADHS by approving a TRBHA inter-governmental agreement contract with the White Mountain Apache Tribe. Start-up activities began on October 01, 2007. In November, 2006, the Division awarded contracts for substance abuse detoxification capacity building projects from state approved funds. Two of the awards of note are: (1) \$811,000 to build a 12 bed non-acute unit in the City of Holbrook and to provide sober housing and development of housing and treatment support in Dilkon on the Navajo Nation, and (2) \$192,448 to the Gila River Indian Community for their Thwajik Ke Detoxification and Residential Treatment Center.

### **Public Health Services**

Throughout the year various ADHS Division of Public Health Services Bureaus and Offices provided on-going funding and technical assistance to Arizona tribal nations. Of note are the following:

- Office of Chronic Disease Prevention and Nutrition provided program funding (Steps to a Healthier USA) to the Tohono O'odham Nation for Asthma, Diabetes, and Obesity prevention at a level of \$351,600.
- Office of Tobacco Education and Prevention Program provided funding to eight tribal programs and three Urban Indian programs for commercial tobacco education and prevention at a combined funding level of \$1,300,000.
- Bureau of Emergency Preparedness and Response provided funding support to seventeen tribes (twelve directly and five indirectly through ITCA subcontracts) for tribal public health emergency preparedness and response. In addition the Bureau provided funding to the three IHS Area Offices and ITCA. The combined funding level equaled \$2,000,000. To ensure tribal input into the Bureau's programs, the Bureau established a Tribal Bio-Terrorism Collaborative Team comprised of six tribal

representatives, one ITCA representative, and one non-voting IHS representative.

- Well Women HealthCheck Program, In November and December of 2006 and September 2007, entered into breast cancer screening and cervical cancer screening contracts with the Phoenix Indian Center, the Native American Community Health Center and the Gila River Indian Community. These contracts equaled a combined sum of \$233,500. The contract periods varied in length from 1/01/06 to 6/30/08.
- Office of Women & Children's Health, In March and July of 2007, awarded Teen Pregnancy Prevention program contracts to the Inter Tribal Council of Arizona, Inc. (ITCA) and the Navajo Nation. The ITCA contract was for \$800,000 to be spent over a three year period. The Navajo Nation contract was for \$300,000 to be spent over 2 ½ years.
- Bureau of Epidemiology and Disease Control provided Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever technical assistance to the White Mountain Apache and San Carlos Apache Indian Tribes. The Bureau secured funding from the state's Health Crisis Funds to assist in the effort.

To facilitate communication and coordination with Indian Nations and tribes, IHS, ITCA, the Division employs three full time Native American Program Coordinators for its Primary Care, Tobacco Education & Prevention, and Emergency Preparedness & Response programs.